Comment on the proposed conservation of the specific name of *Phyllophis carinata* Günther, 1864 (currently *Elaphe carinata*; Reptilia, Serpentes) (Case 2850; see BZN 52: 166–169, 345–346)

Michihisa Toriba

Japan Snake Institute, Yabuzuka-honmachi, Nitta-gun, Gunma 379-23, Japan

Elaphe carinata (Günther, 1864) is a large and fairly common snake with a wide distributional range from southwestern Japan, China and Taiwan, to northern Indo-China. It feeds on various vertebrates and is an important predator.

A change of name to *E. phyllophis* (Boulenger, 1891) would cause serious disruption in a number of scientific fields. I therefore support the proposal by Smith, Ota & Wallach to conserve the name *E. carinata* (Günther).